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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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: **Group Art Unit:**

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: Examiner:

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: Date: August 17, 2006

$$\begin{matrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ X \end{matrix}$$

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Preliminary to initiation of the prosecution of the above-identified pending U.S. patent application, the following amendment and remarks are respectfully submitted.